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January 9, 2003

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Michael Powell,
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Mr. Powell:

As a member of the public I object to **your** plan to allow more concentration of the media into the control of fewer and fewer corporations.

In the New York Times on January 7th Bill Kovach and Tom Rosenstiel **reported** that "FCC Moves to Reduce Media Diversity." But in my opinion there **are** already too few voices discussing the major problems of the times.

If United States is to remain a democracy, many points of view must be heard. Decisions that affect millions of people should be widely discussed. We have radio **and** television and a literate public that can read the newspapers, but serious conversations cannot take place unless various **perspectives** of the issues **are** presented. If the general public is kept in the dark so that a few can earn more money, our **country** will be weakened - might even become a totalitarian **state**.

Please make public all the reasons for your proposed changes in the rules that govern ownership of the American news media. Please allow revelations of all the forces pressuring you to allow fewer and fewer players in the media. Do not become a puppet of huge corporations that have little interest in the common *good*.

Yours truly,



Leila M. Brown